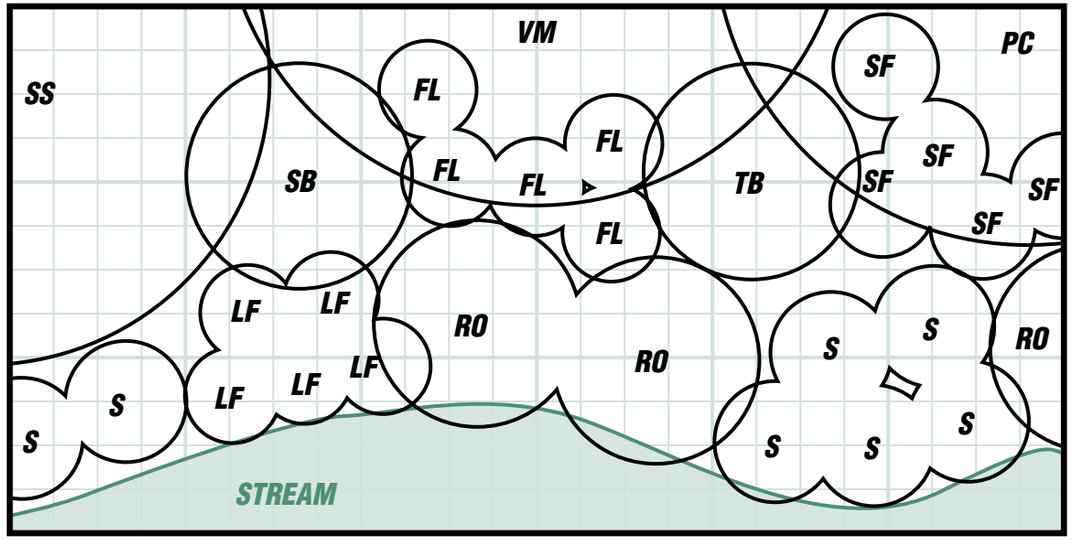
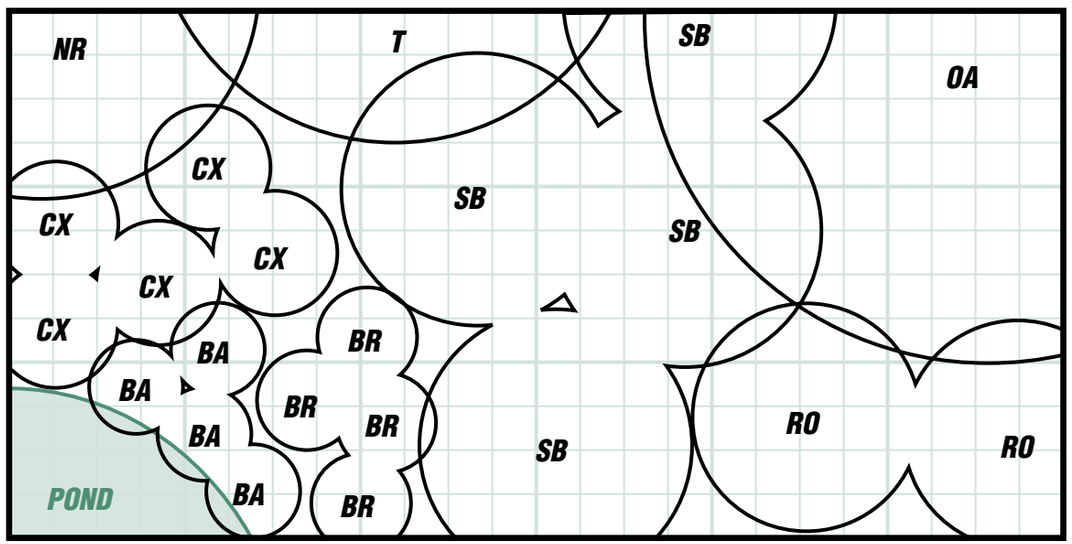


Typical plan for stream corridor planting

SS=*Sitka spruce* ***VM***=*Vine maple* ***PC***=*Pacific crabapple* ***SB***=*Salmonberry* ***TB***=*Thimbleberry*
RO=*Red-osier dogwood* ***S***=*Sawbeak sedge* ***SF***=*Sword fern* ***LF***=*Lady fern* ***FL***=*False lily of the valley*



Typical plan for wetland planting

NR=*Nootka rose* ***T***=*Twinberry* ***OA***=*Oregon ash* ***SB***=*Snowberry* ***RO***= *Red osier dogwood*
CX=*Carex species* ***BR***=*Small -fruited bulrush* ***BA***=*Broadleaf arrowhead* ***Scale:*** *1/4 inch = 1 foot*

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Alternative Formats Available

Upon request, brochure text can be made available in alternative formats for poeple with disabilities.

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GOING NATIVE

Salmonberries drop like jewels in the stream; vine maples turn scarlet in fall; dogwoods flutter their pure white flowers in spring; wild birds hang from floppy branches reaching for the thimbleberries; these are the delights of a native planting.

A Guide to Creating Your Own Native Plant Buffer

The rewards of native plant buffers

Those of us who live near water share a responsibility to keep our waterways clean and healthy. Planting native vegetation as a buffer along the edge of streams, lakes or wetlands can maintain and improve the quality of our water. And native plants also mean more wildlife, less erosion and fewer landscaping hassles.

Well-established native plants help stop erosion at the water's edge by holding the soil with their roots. They reduce flooding by retaining and slowly releasing stormwater. Plants clean stormwater by filtering out sediment, pollution and bacteria before it reaches the lakes and streams. In addition, our fish and wildlife depend on native plants for habitat (food, shelter, shade and pathways). Once established, native plants require little care or watering.

Planning and planting a buffer

Planting a native plant buffer is not much different from planting a garden. There are trees, shrubs, perennials and ground covers to work with. Take a moment to assess what you already have on your property. If you want a lot of evergreens, for example, you may use native evergreens in the buffer.

Knowing how plant buffers grow and function will help you design your own. A lot of good information is published about plants in our area. **Grow Your Own Native Landscape**, available through King County at 206-296-6519 and Dr. Arthur Kruckeberg's **Gardening with Native Plants** give information on plant use and care. Pojar and McKinnon's **Plants of the Pacific Northwest** also includes good color pictures of plants. And the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency publishes **A Citizen's Guide to Wetland Restoration**.

This brochure is intended to help guide you through the planning process. Simply follow the suggestions and if you have questions call King County's Small Habitat Restoration Program (SHRP) at 206-296-6519.

Getting started--what to do when

Design--spring and summer before the fall planting season. Start by doing some of the reading suggested above. Then follow the planning and design instructions in this brochure.
Planting--best done in the fall, winter or early spring when plants won't be stressed by temperature and dryness.
Seeds--can be sown in fall. If sown in pots, don't plant out for one year.
Water--once a week or more from April through September during first two years or when needed--just as you would your own garden.
Weed--hand-remove invasive plants to give your newly-planted specimens a chance to grow.
Fence--keep livestock away from new plants.

Creating a plan

First, measure the area you wish to plant--its length, width and basic shape. Use gridded or graph paper and choose a scale that works, i.e., each square could represent two feet if it is a large site or 6" for a small site. Draw the shape of the planting you want onto the gridded paper with the scale you choose, as in the example on the back.

Next, choose the plants you want to use based on the role they need to play in your landscape. Think about how big the plants will be when fully grown. Most native shrubs are between three and six feet around. Since most plants are roughly circular when seen from above, draw circles onto the grid in the locations you wish to plant each native. Since trees grow above and over shrubs, their circles may overlap the others. Small perennials can be placed under and between the larger shrubs. Be sure to tag each circle with an abbreviation of its name so you won't forget what it was, e.g.; VM for Vine Maple.

Your planting will look better if you cluster three or more shrubs of the same species (even more of the smaller plants) to create natural groups.

Right plant, right microclimate

Each plant grows best in a specific microclimate. Sedges, rushes and reeds grow best at the edges of water in sun or partial shade. Salal prefers dry soil in sun or shade. Vine maples and dogwoods are understory trees, preferring the light shade at the edge of the woods. Books on native plants list the appropriate habitat for each plant.

Each native plant performs a role in its habitat. Knowing this role can help you choose and use plants to best advantage. To control erosion on the edge of a stream, plant red osier dogwood, willows, Oregon ash and vine maple. To attract hummingbirds, plant red flowering currant and orange honeysuckle. And, of course huckleberries and native blackberries are edible by humans as well as animals.

Permits for protection

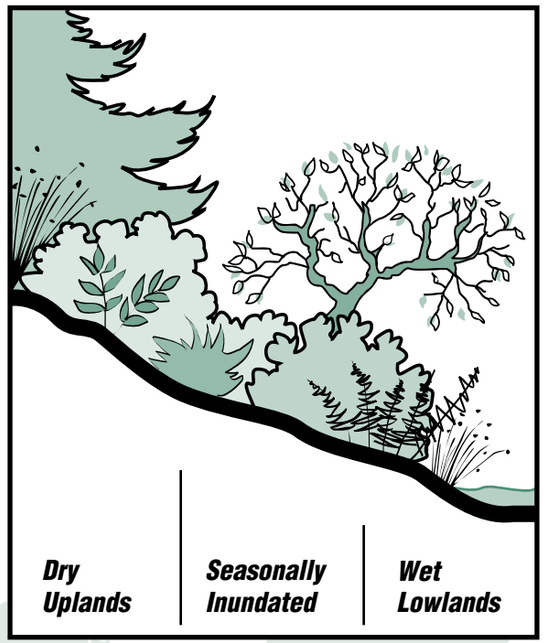
In order to safeguard our streams, permits may be needed to do work in the stream buffer. Staff from SHRP can help you find out if you need permits and help you through the process if you do. Simply call 206-296-8065 to ask for advice.

Note: As a rule of thumb, the **King County Sensitive Areas Ordinance** prohibits clearing, earthwork or non-native plants in wetlands, along streams or lakes, on steep slopes or in buffers of these areas without a **Clearing and Grading permit**. The WA State Dept. of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) is responsible for trout and salmon habitats; you must request a **Hydraulic permit** from them for work below the ordinary high water mark of a stream. Call WDFW at 206-775-1311 for the biologist in your area.

If you wish to collect your own plants, learn how to do so responsibly. Learn more at a *Naturescaping Workshop* offered by King County.
Call 206-296-6519 for more information.

Planting for erosion control

Some native plants have extensive root systems and excellent soil holding abilities. These plants can be used on steep slopes or on eroding water edges.



Plants for dry, upland slopes can include: Vine maple, bigleaf maple, serviceberry, black hawthorn, salal, oceanspray, baldhip and Nootka roses, thimbleberry, elderberry, sword fern, Douglas fir.

Plants for moist or inundated slopes include: red alder, shore pine, cascara, native willows, Western red cedar, twinberry, Pacific ninebark, swamp rose, salmonberry, snowberry, false lily-of-the-valley, sedges.

Plants for wet, saturated conditions include: Oregon ash, Pacific crabapple, Sitka spruce, black cottonwood, red-osier dogwood, lady fern, rushes, bulrushes, arrowhead, bur-reed, cattail.